

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended). A dry kiln system for drying a stack of lumber, comprising:

at least one kiln chamber defining a chamber interior space capable of receiving a stack of lumber for drying;

a chamber heating source capable of providing heated air;

an air moving device capable of circulating heated air supplied to the chamber interior space;

a condensation collection device for collecting liquid in the chamber interior space; and

a piping and pump combination to introduce or re-introduce ~~an evaporation system for introducing or re-introducing~~ collected liquid to a chamber interior space for conversion into steam inside the chamber interior space.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented). The dry kiln system of claim 1, wherein:

the condensation collection device is an evaporator coil in the chamber interior space.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented). The kiln system of claim 1, further comprising:

a drain system to receive liquid from the condensation device.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented). The dry kiln system of claim 3, wherein the condensation collection device directs liquid to a liquid drainage system.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented). The dry kiln system of claim 1, wherein: the condensation device comprises a liquid contact surface.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended). The dry kiln system of claim 4 [[5]], wherein: ~~the dry kiln system further comprises a the~~ liquid drainage system [[,]] and ~~said the liquid contact surface directs liquid toward a liquid holding tank the evaporation system.~~

Claim 7 (Previously Presented). The dry kiln system of claim 5, wherein the liquid contact surface slopes to a liquid drain system, utilizing gravity to direct liquid toward a liquid drainage system.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented). The dry kiln system of claim 5, wherein the liquid contact surface is a sloping floor of the chamber interior space.

Claim 9 (Cancelled).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended). The dry kiln system of claim 1, wherein:

the kiln system further evaporation system comprises a liquid holding tank and an evaporation device a heating source, wherein the heating source effects evaporation of the liquid in the holding tank.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended). The dry kiln system of claim 1, wherein:

the kiln evaporation device comprises a liquid holding tank, and heat from the chamber heating source is directed to the liquid holding tank to effect evaporation of the liquid in the holding tank.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended). The dry kiln system of claim 1, wherein the kiln

evaporation system comprises a pump to direct collected liquid into the kiln chamber for heating to effect evaporation.

Claim 13 (Original). The dry kiln system of claim 12, wherein the pump directs liquid to

a floor surface of the chamber interior space for heating to effect evaporation.

Claim 14 (Original). The dry kiln system of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of kiln

chambers defining a chamber interior space capable of receiving a stack of lumber for drying.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended). The dry kiln system of claim 14, wherein the system

further comprises a liquid drain system capable of receiving liquid from each kiln chamber and capable of delivering said liquid to multiple chamber interior spaces the evaporation system.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended). The dry kiln system of claim 14, wherein collected liquid from said plurality of kiln chambers is directed to a common pump chamber for delivery to a chamber interior space an evaporation system.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended). The dry kiln system of claim 16, wherein the kiln system with a plurality of kiln chambers evaporation system comprises a liquid holding tank with a heat source to effect evaporation.

Claim 18-19 (Cancelled).

Claim 20 (Previously Presented). A process for drying lumber, comprising:
providing a kiln system that comprises
a chamber interior space for receiving a quantity of stacked lumber;
a chamber heating source for heating the air within the structure for drying the lumber; and
a condensation collection device for collecting liquid in the chamber interior space;
placing a quantity of stacked wet lumber within the chamber interior surface;
circulating heated air within the chamber interior surface and about the stacked lumber to dry the lumber and cause liquid in the wet lumber to escape as vapor;
collecting liquid from condensed vapor in the chamber interior surface;

introducing or re-introducing the collected liquid into the chamber interior space; and evaporating said liquid in the chamber interior space.

Claim 21 (Original). The process of claim 20, wherein collecting and evaporating steps are effected by:

providing a pump chamber and an evaporation unit;
pumping the collected liquid to the evaporation unit to effect evaporation.

Claim 22 (Original). The process of claim 20, wherein the evaporation unit is a liquid storage tank downstream from the pump chamber.

Claim 23 (Original). The process of claim 20, wherein the evaporation unit is a surface of a chamber interior space.

Claim 24 (Original). The process of claim 21, wherein the pump chamber directs liquid collected from more than one chamber interior space.

Claim 25 (Original). The process of claim 24, wherein the pump chamber directs collected liquid to more than one evaporation unit

Claim 26-27 (Cancelled).

Claim 28 (Currently Amended). A dry kiln system for drying a stack of lumber, comprising:

~~at least one kiln chamber~~ a plurality of kiln chambers defining a chamber interior spaces ~~space~~ capable of receiving a stack of lumber for drying;

a chamber heating source capable of providing heated air;

an air moving device capable of circulating heated air supplied to ~~a~~ the chamber interior space;

a condensation collection device for collecting liquid in the chamber interior spaces ~~space~~; and

~~an evaporation system for introducing or re introducing a piping and pump combination that introduces or re-introduces~~ collected liquid to a chamber interior space for conversion into steam inside the chamber interior space;

~~wherein the system comprises a plurality of kiln chambers defining a chamber interior space capable of receiving a stack of lumber for drying, and comprises a liquid drain system capable of receiving liquid from each kiln chamber and capable of delivering said liquid to a chamber interior space the evaporation system.~~

Claim 29 (Currently Amended). The dry kiln system of claim 28, wherein the dry kiln system comprises a liquid drain system that ~~evaporation system~~ directs the liquid to a kiln chamber and a holding tank and the piping and pump combination directs liquid from the holding tank to a chamber interior space.